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Theodore L. Eliot, Jr.  
Executive Secretary

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

SECRET

CIA

O 211755Z NOV 72 ZFFI  
FM USDEL SALT TWO I  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1752  
BT  
SECRET USDEL SALT TWO I 0005

CONTROL: 6 6 8 5Q  
RECD: 21 NOV '72 3:20PM

NODIS/SALT

SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS OF SMITH-SEMENOV PRIVATE MEETING NOV. 21

1. SEMENOV (ACCOMPANIED BY GRINEVSKY, CHULITSKY AND INTERPRETER) MET THIS MORNING WITH AMBASSADOR SMITH (ACCOMPANIED BY GARTHOFF AND INTERPRETER) FOR INITIAL MEETING OF SALT TWO-1. SEMENOV BEGAN WITH PREPARED STATEMENT ELABORATING ON THEME THAT THIS STAGE OF NEGOTIATION WOULD TAKE AS A POINT OF DEPARTURE THE SALT ONE AGREEMENTS, IN THE CONTEXT OF THE IMPROVED BASIS FOR SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS ESTABLISHED AT THE MAY SUMMIT. HE DESCRIBED AS PRINCIPAL TASK WORKING OUT A PERMANENT AGREEMENT ON STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS TO SUCCEED THE INTERIM AGREEMENT. HE SUGGESTED THE DELEGATIONS COULD ALSO CONSIDER POSSIBILITY OF OBLIGATIONS TO EXERCISE RESTRAINT IN AREAS NOT LIMITED BY AGREEMENTS, AND ALSO NOT TO UNDERTAKE NEW PROGRAMS IN STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS.

2. SMITH DESCRIBED OUR CENTRAL TASK AS WORKING OUT A PERMANENT AGREEMENT ON STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS, BASED ON THE PRINCIPLE OF EQUALITY IN NUMBERS OF CENTRAL STRATEGIC SYSTEMS (ICBMS, SLBMS, AND HEAVY BOMBERS), AND THAT IT WAS ESSENTIAL IN THIS PROCESS TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THROW-WEIGHT OF ICBMS. US HAD CONCLUDED THAT BEST WAY TO APPROACH EQUALITY IN NUMBERS OF DELIVERY SYSTEMS AND IN ICBM THROW-WEIGHT WOULD BE THROUGH REDUCING STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS.

3. SEMENOV AND SMITH AGREED ON DESIRABILITY OF PROMPTLY MOVING TO ESTABLISH STANDING CONSULTATIVE COMMISSION. SMITH PROPOSED, AND SEMENOV AGREED, TO ESTABLISH A WORKING GROUP FOR THIS PURPOSE.

4. SEMENOV STRESSED PRINCIPLE OF EQUAL SECURITY AND NO UNILATERAL ADVANTAGE FOR EITHER SIDE, AND ON THIS BASIS RAISED THE QUESTION OF WITHDRAWAL OF FBS AND LIQUIDATION OF FOREIGN BASES, AS WELL AS INCLUSION OF STRATEGIC BOMBERS. (THE FBS QUESTION WAS ONLY LIGHTLY TOUCHED UPON, AND WAS RAISED MORE EXPLICITLY IN THE PLENARY SESSION HELD SUBSEQUENTLY, REPORTED SEPTEL.)

GP-1. SMITH

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